

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The emergency center can issue a broadcast signal destined to travel on a common channel signaling network. Switching equipment includes a switch for a switched telephone network. This switch can (a) establish telephonic communications between callers and called parties over a predetermined number of subscriber lines with a standard ring pattern, and (b) transmit an emergency ring pattern over a majority of the subscriber lines in response to a single command event conveyed to the switch over the common channel signaling network.